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CIA Fighting Disclosure Moon's Church Accepts Delay

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Rev. Sun Myung Moon's Unification Church, in a surprise move, told the Supreme Court yesterday that it does not oppose a CIA request to block temporarily the release of certain secret documents requested by the group.

The CIA has asked Chief Justice Warren Burger to delay implementation of a lower-court decision ordering the agency to turn over what it calls "sensitive intelligence information" on U.S.-Korean relations.

The agency wants the delay until it can make a full-scale appeal to the

high court. The church said it would not oppose the CIA request as long as the agency makes a prompt appeal to the justices.

The CIA claims the material is exempt from disclosure under the Freedom of Information Act on grounds "of foreign policy or national security," as well as the protection of "intelligence sources and methods."

The case began in 1978 when the church made its original request for the information. After the CIA refused to turn over many of the documents, the church filed suit.